

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 525

By Crowe

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Donald R. Messimer of  
Johnson City.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of  
the death of Donald R. Messimer; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Messimer was an exemplary citizen and consummate professional who  
worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for his fellow citizens in numerous capacities;  
and

WHEREAS, Don Messimer was well known throughout his community as the amiable  
proprietor of Don's Barber Shop, a Johnson City institution for more than forty years; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Messimer's skill and character led to his having a remarkably loyal  
following among his customers; many of them had been making regular visits to Don's Barber  
Shop for more than thirty or forty years; and

WHEREAS, with his trademark hot lather and warm towels, Don Messimer earned the  
best following of any barber in his community; and

WHEREAS, invariably pleased with their experience, patrons of this talented barber  
were quick to praise his abilities and recommend the shop to their friends and families, and his  
clientele included numerous third-generation customers; and

WHEREAS, himself a veteran of the United States Army and Reserve, Don Messimer was a committed patriot and devoted to serving his nation and the men and women who defend our freedom; and

WHEREAS, on April 24, 1992, the East Tennessee State University ROTC presented him with a plaque honoring him for support to the cadets who would become commissioned officers in the United States Army; and

WHEREAS, an active and devout Christian, Mr. Messimer was a member of the Unicoi Christian Church, where he attended every service and served faithfully for many years as Deacon; and

WHEREAS, never failing to walk the Christian walk in his daily life, he was a friend and an inspiration to all who entered Don's Barber Shop, and he never charged ministers or seminary students for his services; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Messimer was also deeply devoted to his family, and he always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, he was most grateful for the loving companionship of the former Pansy Miller, whom he joined in holy matrimony on July 2, 1961; and

WHEREAS, a dedicated family man, he was the loving father of Danny Messimer and Jennifer James and the proud grandfather of two granddaughters, Ashley and Sierra; and

WHEREAS, Don Messimer leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional man; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, That we honor the memory of Donald R. Messimer of Johnson City, reflecting

fondly upon his impeccable character and his stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Mr. Messimer.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.